

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 INR-07 /032 R

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O 082119Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL DOUALA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: VISIT U.S. BUSINESS REPS RE RICE PROJECT

PASS SCHLENKER FROM OPIC

1. FRANK FEFFER, PRESIDENT, AND TONY TEELE OF CHEMONICS INDUSTRIES ARRIVING ABOUT AUGUST 9 DOUALA FOR WEEK OF REVIEW OF PROPOSED MBANDJOCK RICE PROJECT. APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE WHILE REPS IN CAMEROON.

2. CHEMONICS IS A DIVISION OF EARLY CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIES, A MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANY ENGAGED IN DIVERSIFIED FOOD OPERATIONS. COMET RICE DIVISION IS THIRD LARGEST RICE PROCESSOR AND MARKETER IN U.S.; IT HAS NO DIRECT RICE GROWING OPERATIONS. CHEMONICS WAS CONTACTED BY OPIC REGARDING CAMEROON PROJECT BECAUSE OF COMPANY'S PREVIOUS INTEREST IN MANAGING RICE PROJECTS ELSEWHERE IN BLACK AFRICA AND COMPANY'S WORLD-WIDE RICE MARKETING EXPERIENCE. PROJECTIONS OF CAMEROON RICE PRODUCTION SHOW MBANDJOCK PROJECT COMING ON STREAM WHEN COUNTRY SELF-SUFFICIENT IN RICE AND THEREFORE EXPORT SALES

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WILL BE REQUIRED. CHEMONICS UNDERSTANDS REQUIREMENT OF U.S.

EQUITY IN PROJECT BUT, LIKE OTHERS, HAS INSUFFICIENT AGRICULTURAL DATA TO WORK WITH.

3. CHEMONICS MET WITH NOMO AND EX-IM BEFORE DEPARTURE WASHINGTON. THEY HAVE NOT MET GRATA PEOPLE; EMBASSY MAY FEEL IT APPROPRIATE TO INTRODUCE THEM IN CAMEROON. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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